portion of the population lived on low ground to the east of the Taluk office and the Eraniel branch channel. As a consequence, all the habitations below for a mile to the east of the channel were affected by dampness caused by the perennial oozing of water from the channel. In recent years the place had also become subject to elephantiasis and other allied diseases. The well water in the town was brackish and unfit for drinking purposes and the people for a mile around were forced to obtain drinking water from the springs in the Valliyar, a small stream running along the eastern border of the town. Even this water, which was filthy, being only the drainage water from the paddy fields and gardens, was not always obtainable. The appointment of a special medical officer for cholera duty in the taluk from time to time was a clear indication of the insanitary condition of the place. The narrow and damp lanes and bye-lanes of the town with thickly crowded houses on either side formed a nursery of diseases. To remedy this, the Member suggested that side drains might be cut and the lanes well metalled with gravel. Regarding drinking water, the Member suggested that a reservoir might be built at the foot of the Eraniel channel which was in level about 60 feet higher than the densely populated portion of the town and water stored up in it and distributed by means of pipes for drinking purposes for the whole area lower down. The cost of the project would not be prohibitive and the Member had no objection to the expenditure being recouped by the levy of a small water cess.

The Member next said that the taluk of Eraniel which was more densely populated than the adjacent taluks of Agastisvaram, Kalkulam and Vilavankod stood badly in need of a Munsiff's Court. The taluks of Agastisvaram and Kalkulam had each two Munsiffs' Courts. The Eraniel taluk was inhabited by craftsmen and traders and was year after year commercially, industrially and agriculturally rising in importance. The people had to resort to the Munsiff's Court at Thuckalay, and that entailed much trouble and expense to the litigant population. Out of the 14,766 cases filed in the Padmanabhapuram Munsiffs' Courts for the past four years, 8,562 cases or nearly 60 per cent. of the cases were from Eraniel. At Eraniel, there was a convenient building available at a cheap rent for locating the Court. The Member prayed that the Additional Munsiff's Court at Padmanabhapuram might be transferred to Eraniel.

Dewan's reply.—In your memo of subjects you did not state these points. If you had done so, the question of the transfer of the Additional Munsiff's Court from Padmanabhapuram to Eraniel would have been referred to the High Court and their opinion obtained. Your present representation will be forwarded to the High Court for their remarks.

In regard to the insanitary condition of Eraniel town and the need for a good water supply, all that you have urged point to the necessity for a Municipality in that place. You must administer your own affairs and there must be a local body to see to the improvement of the town. I believe the Dewan Peishkar, Padmanabhapuram, has recommended the starting of a Municipal council at Eraniel. The necessary notification will be published in the Gazette and objections invited. But what I request you and the townsmen of Eraniel to do is to face the situation boldly, realise the need for a Municipality, take up the affairs of your town in your own hands and manage them.

154. Certain needs of the Vilavankod taluk with special reference to the necessity for establishing a Government Hospital at Kuzhittura and raising the standard of the L. G. E. School at Martandam.

Mr. V. Ramakrishna Pillai (Member, Municipal Council, Kuzhittura) said that the necessity for the establishment of a Government hospital at Kuzhittura, the headquarters of the taluk, had been pressed upon the serious attention of Government by the Members from the taluk since the second session of the Assembly, that even before the institution of the Assembly the people had repeatedly memorialised successive Dewans since the time of Dewan Mr. Shungrasubbier on the same subject

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and that it was highly disappointing that their prayer had not been sanctioned up to the present day, though Dewan Bahadur Krishnaswami Rao and Dewan Bahadur S. Gopalachariar had expressed themselves in favour of the proposal. Dr. Lakshmanan, when he was acting as Darbar Physician, had, in his Inspection notes, urged the necessity of establishing a Hospital at Kuzhittura, but he seemed to have changed his opinion after he was confirmed as Darbar Physician. Kuzhittura was centrally situated between Neyyattinkara and Thuckalay and the people of certain pakuthies of the Eraniel and Kalkulam taluks would have easier access to Kuzhittura. The dispensary established at Arumana should not be considered as an impediment to the present request. The Mission hospital at Martandam which was in receipt of a grant from the Government, did not meet the requirements of the people of the taluk. In the first place, duly qualified medical men were not appointed to the above hospital. The treatment accorded by the Mission authorities to patients belonging to other than the Christian religion was far from satisfactory. The people had to pay for the medicines supplied to them. The patients had to listen to the preaching of Christian doctrines. For the above reasons, the Mission hospital was not useful to the people. The Member therefore prayed that a Government hospital might be established at Kuzhittura. As an alternative, the Member suggested that the Mission authorities should be called on to employ a Graduate in medicine in charge of the Mission hospital, and to have the hospital accommodated in a more spacious building with more beds, in which case an increased grant might be given to the institution.

The Member next thanked the Dewan for the orders recently passed sanctioning the opening of Form IV in the lower grade English school, Martandam, from the beginning of the next academical year and prayed that arrangements might be made for the order reaching them in time so as to enable the students passing out of Form III to continue in the same school. Referring to the conditions laid down by the Government that the people should put up a temporary shed with necessary furniture for accommodating Form IV and such other buildings and furniture required for the opening of Forms V & VI when Government required them to do so, the Member said that the deputation that waited on the Director had agreed to abide by those conditions. The Member understood that the Government were intending to put up a new school building in the newly acquired compound and prayed that the people might be allowed to put up the temporary sheds for accommodating Form IV in the newly acquired school site instead of on the present school site, to avoid possible loss to them by putting up sheds first on the old site and removing them subsequently to the new site. He also prayed to be informed as to when the building of the new school would begin and when it was likely to be completed so that the necessary adjustments might be made by the people. The Member also represented that the Munsiff's Court was at present accommodated in the local satrom which was on that account not available to the pilgrims and other wayfarers, that the court-house was situated on a low level and was adjacent to the Palace, and that the presiding officer, vakils, staff and the public at large felt considerable inconvenience by the holding of the court in the above building. The Munsiff's court might therefore be arranged to be shifted from the present site and located in any other healthy place a little away from the congested houses and shops.

Dewan's reply.—Orders are issuing for opening From IV in the school from the beginning of the next school year. The additional sheds which the people have offered to put up may be constructed on the new site. With regard to the opening of a hospital, there is an aided medical institution there now. How do you justify another institution?

Member:—Medicines are not given free to poor Hindus at the aided institution. There is no qualified medical officer. There is no inpatient ward. If these defects at least are cured, our difficulty will be minimised to some extent.

Dewan.—The Mission authorities will be called upon to place a qualified medical officer in charge of the institution and also to provide an adequate number of beds and equip them properly. If the Mission authorities accept these conditions, the question of increasing the grant to the institution will be considered. It is wiser to adopt this course than to start a new hospital at the place.

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Member.—The Munsiff's Court should be shifted from the satrom where it is located at present.

Dewan.—You may draw my attention to it when I go there next.

155. The need for certain public institutions at Nedumangad.

Mr. P. Kesava Pillai (Member, Nedumangad Taluk) first urged the necessity for the opening of an English school at Nedumangad. He then represented the need for a Munsiff's Court at Nedumangad and detailed the hardships the people were undergoing for want of a Munsiff's Court. At present they were being compelled to go to three other taluk centres, *viz.*, Trivandrum, Chirayinkil and Neyyattinkara, the first having three Courts and the other taluks having two Courts each. He gave particulars of the jurisdiction of each of the Munsiffs' Courts and observed that the distance to be covered by the litigant public varied between 7 and 25 miles and prayed that his request might be reconsidered and granted as early as possible. If no separate Court could be established, at least one of the three Courts at Trivandrum might be shifted to Nedumangad.

Dewan's reply.—In regard to the English school, orders have already been issued to open one with effect from the beginning of the next school year. The representation for a Munsiff's Court will be considered in the light of what the Member has said.

156. Urgent needs of the Chirayinkil Taluk.

Mr. K. Gopalan Nair (Member, Municipal Council, Attungal) pointed out the necessity for an English school for girls at Attungal. He said that at present there were 70 girls reading in the English school for boys at Attungal, and 50 girls in the English school for boys at Chirayinkil, and if a girls' school were opened at Attingal there would be many more girls to join the school. Many girls had to sit idle at home on account of their unwillingness to attend the boys' schools. He then referred to the Government order declaring that the question of opening a deparmental English school for girls at Attungal would be considered favourably, if the people of the locality were prepared to provide adequate permanent accommodation for the school, and stated that there was already adequate and permanent accommodation under the management and ownership of the Education Department itself, namely, the old English school which would be vacated when the school was transferred to the new buildings on completion. Hence the Member prayed for the establishment of an English school for girls at Attungal.

Next, the Member spoke about the question of shifting the Varkala Stationary Magistrate's Court to Attungal and posting a First Class Magistrate there permanently. At present there were two Magistrates' courts in the Chirayinkil taluk, one at Varkala and the other at Attungal; and he requested that the court at Varkala might either be transferred to Attungal or that certain pakuthies be transferred from the jurisdiction of the court at Varkala to that of Attungal as it would be of much help to the people of most of those pakuthies who had now to pass through the town of Attungal and then go to Varkala. A First class Magistrate's court should be established at Attungal. There was a Taluk First Class Magistrate's court there but it was recently abolished.

The Member also discussed the necessity for a dispensary or hospital at Attungal. Though Attungal was a town growing in importance and could boast of a number of Government institutions, there was neither a hospital nor a dispensary there as yet. In view of the fact that the town possessed a population of over 10,000, and that there was a large number of students residing in the locality, the establishment of a dispensary or a hospital was an unavoidable necessity. The Member suggested that the hospital at Chirayinkil might be removed to Attungal or the dispensary proposed to be opened at Varkala might be opened at Attungal, because, there being Railway connection between Chirayinkil and Varkala, one hospital or dispensary would be quite sufficient for both the places. He concluded by saying that, if the above proposal could not be carried out, Government might be pleased to open a separate hospital or a dispensary at Attungal.

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